Newspapers by ancestry
https://www.newspapers.com/image/283709476/

Downloaded on Jun 3, 2025

Eerie duo

Ghost-hunting couple sense a double haunting of Kutztown's Old Main

By SUSAN SNYDER
Of The Morning Call

Kutztown University's oldest building on campus is haunted.

Not by one ghost, but by two.

That's the verdict of New England ghost hunters Ed and Lorraine Warren, perhaps best known for their research of a supposedly haunted home on Amityville, Long Island. The couple toured Old Main — a 125-year-old dormitory and classroom building — Wednesday night after presenting a program at the university.

Legend goes that Old Main is home to Mary, the ghost of a woman who supposedly killed herself on the fifth floor years ago because she was ashamed of being pregnant. Students say cups move, rooms turn frigid in summer and radios play without power in Old Main, and they blame the strange happenings on Mary.

But Mary may be getting some help.

From the moment that self-proclaimed clairvoyant Lorraine Warren stepped off the elevator onto the fifth floor — a furniture and supply storage area which is closed to students and most others — she said she sensed a ghostly presence.

"More than one spirit, definitely more than one spirit," Lorraine Warren said, detecting both an elderly man and a 20-ish woman who appears to be trapped on earth because of guilt.

The strongest signal, she said, came just off the elevator in a small room, cramped by typewriters and desks. Lights were turned out at the Warrens' request.

A handful of students, a university official and a reporter crowded into the doorway of the room.

Warren said she saw a swaying pinpoint of light indicating a ghost, but it was not seen by others.

"The woman appears to be very frightened," said Warren, a thin woman with glasses and dark grayish white hair neatly wrapped in a bun.

"What is it that troubles you," she asked. "Why do you remain here?"

"Let her know we're friends," Ed Warren advised.

"I'd like to be sympathetic to your pain," Lorraine Warren said in a clear low, but firm voice. "I'd like to try to help you accept your death and to leave here."

"Tell her not to be afraid of the other spirits who come to her," Ed Warren said. "Send her toward the light, Lorraine."

Lorraine Warren asked the ghost to knock if she understood. It was uncertain whether a small scratching sound was a feeble, ethereal knock or the burp of an old building.

"I think you got an answer," Ed Warren said, confidently.

Earlier in the evening, the Warrens, whose 46-year marriage has included ghost hunting, demon ridding and lectures on the paranormal, drew a sell-out crowd of more than 800 to Schaeffer Auditorium. Among the audience were a priest, a police detective and a man who said he had his home exorcised. Two hundred people were turned away at the door, said Jim Davis, director of student activities.

The couple delighted the audience with cute stories, "Ghost Buster" jokes and intriguing slides.

Like a crowd-gasping photo of northern Civil War soldiers who projected themselves on a wall in a Milford, Conn., home.

A deceased West Chester College president who popped in on one of the Warrens' presentations about a decade ago.

An old English woman who appeared in the back seat of a family car in a photograph taken two weeks after her death.

But by the end of the 1½-hour talk, the Warrens were showing pictures of a young girl who, they said, was brutally raped by a ghost, the black and blue teeth marks still on her forearm.

They were telling the story of Annabelle, a rag doll who came to life and caused the car crash of a disbelieving priest and the early retirement of a homicide detective.

They were playing the voice of what they said was the Devil, himself, or at least his demonic disciples. A few frightened students left the program, went into the lobby, put their fingers in their ears and hummed to avoid hearing the deep, curdling voices of Fred and Tommy, as called by the Warrens.

Ed Warren warned those in the audience not to tape the demon voices and Lorraine urged people not to experiment with Ouija boards and tarot cards, which she said would open doors to evil spirits.

"With all this fear we're feeling right now and after listening to the voices of Satan, isn't that opening the door," someone in the audience asked.

But the Warrens said not to worry. They said they are protecting everyone by imagining a "Christ light" around the crowd.

Anyone who believes in God can project the safe shield, Ed Warren explained later.

But a shield does not eliminate fear. Ed Warren said when he watched an exorcism of a farmer in Massachusetts in 1985, it scared him so much that he suffered a heart attack and spent 10 days in intensive care.

"His head splits open, his eyes bleed, blood comes from the mouth, his nose swells up to three times its normal size . . . ," he said, recalling the horror.

The Warrens also astonished the audience with a queer case of England resident Bill Ramsey, a small-statured family man who enjoyed raising roses.

That's until he became a Werewolf.

"When these attacks came on, all of his physical characteristics would change," Lorraine Warren said of Ramsey, "and his face looked like that of an animal. The ears point. The lips roll up. The teeth protrude. The hands become rigid claws, and he develops super human strength."

Ramsey has since been rehabilitated through exorcism.

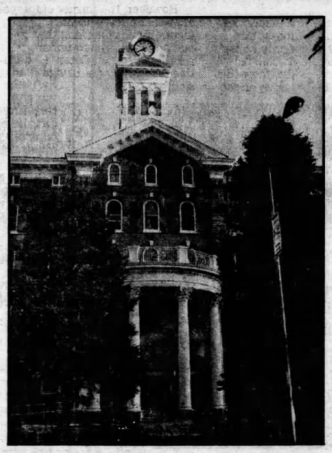
The Warrens said there is no firm explanation why some people are attacked by ghosts or visited by friendly spirits. A house that is a bed of horror for one family may cause no torment for another, they said.

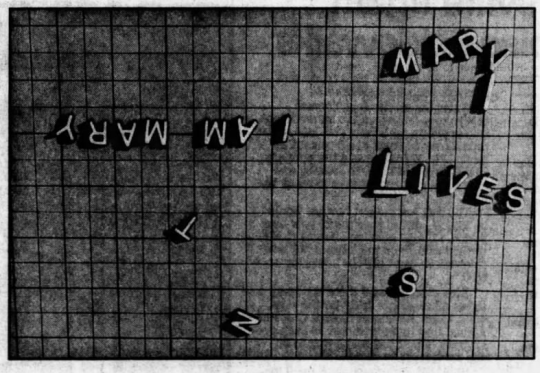
"It has a great deal to do with the emotion of a family," she said.

The Warrens also warned about the alarming growth of Satanism and black magic. They said they are working on a case in Arizona in which a group led by college professors are sacrificing children to Lucifer. The daughters of the professors told their story to the Warrens, detailing sexual abuse, graveyard visits and the breeding of babies for killing.

"These things are very real ladies and gentleman," Ed Warren said.

CHUCK ZOVKO / The Morning Call





Kutztown University's Old Main, at left, is said to be haunted by ghost of young woman named Mary who lives in Theater Department's wardrobe room, above. Letters on sign in the building that proclaim Mary's presence, below, are reported to change by themselves.

Eerie Duo

Clipped By:
C_St_Reed
Jun 3, 2025

Copyright © 2025 Newspapers.com. All Rights Reserved.